disposal of cases by MRTPC during the last five years; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to strengthen/reorient/restructure MRTPC during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) There were 3122 enquiries/cases pending in the MRTP Commission as on 30.11.1996. The break up of the enquiries/cases is as under :

Unfair Trade Practice Enquiries	862
Restrictive Trade Practice Enquiries	1044
Monopolistic Trade Practice Enquiries	5
Compensation Applications	1211
Total	3122

(b) Information with regard to registration and disposal of cases in the MRTP Commission is not maintained city wise and no review of pending cases mega city wise and State wise has been under taken.

(c) The Government is considering a proposal to administratively strengthen the Commission so that pendency of cases can be brought down.

Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944

4315. SHRI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce the scheme of tax audit of manufacturer's accounts and returns under Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the objectives likely to be achieved therefrom and

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In place of the existing system of routine biennial audit of all the manufacturers' accounts and returns, a system of selective but comprehensive audit by the Central Excise Officers has been introduced in the month of November 1996. Units paying Central Excise duty above Rs.1 crore per annum will be audited once in year keeping in view the marketing pattern, costing and pricing of products, remission of duty obtained through Modvat/ Drawback route, records of production/Turnover, trends in revenue, type of commodities etc. For other, i.e. medium and small scale units, a more selective commodity and industry specific, sectroral studies and intelligence based audit have been envisaged. The objective is to have qualitative and in-depth audit in the areas of high revenue stakes in the rapidly growing industrial sector for utilising optimally the limited resources of the Department.

[Translation]

Child Labour and Human Rights Conditions in Indian Items

4316. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of countries which have put forth human rights condition for importing goods from India;

(b) the details of countries which have decided not to import the goods in the production of which child labourers are engaged;

(c) whether any country had stopped or reduced imports from India on the grounds of human rights or child labour;

(d) if so, the details thereof country-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BULLA BOLLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) No country has put forth conditions regarding human rights or use of child labour in production of goods which are imported by it from India.

(c) to (e) It is perceived that some exports from India to some European countries may be adversely affected by misconceptions among importers regarding the situation with respect to the use of child labour in production in sectors such as carpets and garments. Concrete measures are being taken by Government of India especially through our missions abourad to sensitize the concerned governments, opinion makers, Imports and the general public regarding these issues.

[English]

N.P.A. of Banks

4317. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of comparative figures relating to Non-Performing Assets and advances made by Nationalised Banks during each of the last three years, bank-wise;

(b) the reasons for the decline in advances;

(c) the details of loan recovery policy followed by the banks and the achievements made thereunder during the above period; and

(d) the names of banks which have been showing poor performance during the above period and the steps taken by them to improve their position?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The details of Non-Performing Assets and Advances of the nationalised banks during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed.